KYRSTEN SINEMA ARIZONA

COMMITTEES

BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

United States Senate

SH-317 HART BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20510 (202) 224-4521

ARIZONA

2200 E. CAMELBACK RD, SUITE 120 PHOENIX, AZ 85016 (602) 598-7327

http://sinema.senate.gov

May 21, 2019

Ms. Joy Beasley Acting Associate Director Cultural Resources, Partnerships and Science National Park Service 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 3318 Washington D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Beasley:

I write concerning designation of the Sandra Day O'Connor House in Tempe, Arizona for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Sandra Day O'Connor House honors Justice O'Connor's legacy and stands as a symbol for civil discussion in the Southwest. During her time in the Arizona State Senate, Justice O'Connor turned her home into a collaborative space for political leaders to identify and thoughtfully address challenges facing Arizonans. Her reputation as a pragmatic consensus builder aided in her selection for the Maricopa County Superior Court, the Arizona Court of Appeals, and her confirmation as the first woman on the United States Supreme Court. Justice O'Connor's philosophy towards civil discourse and the role it played in her journey to the Supreme Court is symbolized in her home.

Designation of the O'Connor House on the National Registry of Historic Places (NRHP) formally recognizes Justice O'Connor's accomplishments and cements the importance of preserving a collaborative space for civil discussion in Arizona. In 2006, when the house was set to be demolished, Arizonans came together to carefully disassemble the property and rebuild it brick by brick in Papago Park, where it stands today. The O'Connor House supports the work of the Sandra Day O'Connor Institute to further policy discourse in ways that are non-partisan, objective, and inclusive.

Justice O'Connor's legacy continues to promote mindful policymaking and civic engagement in Arizona. In accordance with all existing agency rules, regulations, and ethical guidelines, I urge you to give this proposal full and fair consideration as you make this important decision.

Sincerely,

Kyrsten Sinema

United States Senator